

~~ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY~~

*alc 25-0674*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of Legislative Counsel

THROUGH : Associate Deputy Director  
for Administration

SUBJECT : House Committee on Internal  
Security - Congressman Rodino's  
Inquiry Concerning

1. Reference is made to Congressman Peter W. Rodino's letter to the Director of Central Intelligence, dated 17 March 1975, concerning the files of the former House Committee on Internal Security (successor to HCUA) and to the request of the Office of Legislative Counsel for our comments relating thereto.

2. The Office of Security formerly scheduled routine name checks at HCIS and HCUA, as a part of the National Agency Name Check portion of our investigation of applicants for Agency employment and in similar investigations where experience indicated that such records might contain information relating to the subject of our investigation. Effective 31 March 1972, this procedure was changed, and since that date, we have not scheduled or conducted any name checks at HCIS.

3. The decision to discontinue name checks at HCIS was based on the results of a survey conducted by the Office of Security, which indicated that less than one percent of the name checks submitted to HCIS were returned with positive results, and that of the one percent of such "hits," only a small fraction thereof turned out to be identical with the subject of our inquiry. It was further ascertained that of the remaining small percentage of positive "hits," that the same information was usually obtained through the FBI or CSC records.

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Most of the information obtained through the name check source at that time was 20 or more years old, and in addition thereto, it was also ascertained that the records in question (carded summaries) often contained only a minimum of identifying data with incomplete or no indication of the original source of such information.

4. Our decision to discontinue name checks at HCIS was delayed as a result of some misunderstandings, and the belief that they were required under EO 10450. As you are aware, EO 9835, the predecessor to EO 10450, specifically required that the files of HCUA be searched in connection with the investigation of applicants for sensitive government employment. EO 10450, which became effective 27 May 1953, contains no such specific requirement to check HCIS files.

5. The results of our HCIS and HCUA file reviews are contained in the Office of Security file pertaining to the individual involved. Agency policy precludes the release thereof to any federal or state agency and/or interested persons or organizations. In the event that an accredited and cleared security representative of another federal agency were to make an inquiry concerning an individual previously investigated by this Agency whose security file contained a reference to HCIS or HCUA information, he would, in accordance with Agency and standard government policy for the handling of third agency information, be referred to the HCIS files now in the custody of the House Committee on Judiciary. No specific information, not even the citation thereto, would be released to any federal agency. We would not release any security information to state agencies and other interested persons and organizations, except in response to legitimate requests under the Freedom of Information Act, which would be limited to information developed by this Agency and would exclude any information obtained from the files of any third agency, including HCIS and HCUA.

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Charles W. Kane  
Director of Security

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# ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

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SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Legislative Counsel

EXTENSION

6121

NO.

DATE

29 May 1975

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

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Director

5/29 5/29 *Wed*

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Attached for your signature is a letter to Chairman Rodino, House Judiciary Committee, responding to his inquiry as to what use the Agency made of the files of the now abolished House Committee on Internal Security. They need this for guidance as these files have been transferred to that Committee.

We have made little, if any, use of these files since 1972. This has been coordinated with the DDO, CI Staff and the Office of Security.

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*Handwritten signature*  
George L. Cary  
Legislative Counsel

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Approved For Release 2002/01/23 : CIA-RDP77M00144R000300080021-1

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